SPECIES LIST OF FERNS FOR AKATARAWA SADDLE AND WATERFALL CREEK

Anarthropteris lanceolata

Asplenium bulbiferum

flaccidum

hookerianum

polyodon

Blechnum "capense" haral prima redeces

chambersii

colensoi

discolor

fluviatile

nigrum

procerum

vulcanicum

Ctenopteris heterophylla

Cyathea dealbata

medullaris

smithii

Dicksonia squarrosa

Grammitis billardierei

pseudociliata

Hymenophyllum atrovirens

bivalve

demissum

dilatatum

ferrugineum

flabellatum

multifidum

rarum

revolutum

sanguinolentum

scabrum

Hypolepis rufobarbata

Lastreopsis hispida

Leptolepia novae-zelandiae

Leptopteris hymenophylloides

superba

Lindsaea trichomanoides

Lycopodium scariosum

varium

volubile

Paesia scaberula mayring - Dennstreedtraceg

Phymatosorus diversifolius

Pneumatopteris pennigera

Polystichum sylvaticum

vestitum

Pteridium esculentum #

Pyrrosia serpens

Rumohra adiantiformis

Sticherus cunninghamii

Tmesipteris elongata

tannensis

Trichomanes colensoi

endlicherianum

reniforme

strictum:

venosum

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NOV. 6: AKATARAWA SUMMIT

Leader: Miss R. MASON

About twenty-five members travelled up the Akatarawa Valley in private cars arriving at the summit (1455 feet) at about 11 a.m. The day was fine and sunny with little wind—altogether ideal for botanizing.

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The bush close to the road had been milled some years previously but old logging tracks ran here and there between the tangle of second growth and fallen logs. Kamahi was the most prominent tree remaining after the rimu had been taken out. Down the valleys and further up the ridge the bush was in its original state with rimu, kamahi and rata conspicuous. Miro and matai were present bur not in any quantity. Hinau was common. The only beech seen was a clump on an exposed ridge facing north-west and scattered trees, probably red beech, along the upper part of the Akatarawa River below the road. These trees along the river were in full flower.

Several plants were seen that do not grow lower down: thin-barked totara (Podocarpus hallii), Prince of Wales's Feather (Leptopteris superba), mountain cabbage-tree (Cordyline indivisa), stinkwood (Coprosma foetidissima), enargea (E. parviflora), and native calceolaria (Jovellana repens) growing on a wet bank. A blackish-green fern (Blechnum nigrum) that only grows in the dampest and shadiest places in the bush was also seen. The road-cuttings were well covered with ferns and other plants, gnaphalium (G. keriense) and the small cabbage-tree (Cordyline banksii) being particularly abundant on wet banks, the former in flower, the latter in bud; on the drier faces there were a w shrubs of Senecio kirkii, and Blechnum vulcanicum with its young cronds coloured a beautiful red. Clematis indivisa was still in flower; some of the male ones were larger than usual and very striking. Other plants seen flowering were: hangehange (Geniostoma ligustrifolium), horopito (Pseudowintera axillaris), bush lawyer (Rubus cissoides), pigeonwood, wineberry and fuchsia. Helichrysum bellidioides occurred in one or two places by the roadside and has probably been introduced by means of wind-blown seed. One of the most interesting discoveries during the day was an unsually large morel (Morchella) growing on rotten wood.

The society is grateful to those members who took the party in their cars when the usual lorry transport could not be obtained.

A.P.D.